

From our Womens Meeting held at  
York, the 15, and 16th. days of the Fourth  
Month, 1692.

To every particular *Womans Monthly Meeting*  
within this County.

**D**EAR Friends, and tender Sisters? We dearly Salute you in the Love of God, and his precious truth, wherein he hath loved us, and united us unto himself, and one unto another. And hath concerned us, according to our measure for his honour, and the prosperity of his truth, in and amongst us, living praises to him for ever. We being met together in his fear to wait upon him for Wisdom and Counsell to order us, in all our undertakings, relating to Church affaires: Truth's comely order, and the righteous Government thereof, such hath been the aboundings of the love of God amongst us, through the operation of his blessed spirit, that a double obligation is laid upon us to love him, and to serve and obey him while we have a day, and a time, on this side the grave.

And many heavenly testimonys hath been born amongst us for our encouragment in the demonstration of the Lords power so that we are well satisfied, that God almighty accepts our service and delights in the care, and exercise, wherein we have been concerned: And diuers comfortable testimonys, hath been brought in writing ( and read amongst us ) from severall of our

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Women Monthly Meetings of the care and concerne of Friends, for its honour and the prosperity thereof amongst them; And we find it our duty to encourage you, our dear Sisters in every of your respective places and we fervently desire your persevering in your diligence and care in keeping your Monthly Meetings in the love and power of the Lord, waiting upon him, for countell and wisdom to be enabled by him, in all your undertakings to act for his glory, leaving nothing in in your eye but his honour and the prosperity of the truth, and the preservation of his people therein; And let none who have put their hands to the plow, look back nor who have bowed their necks to the yoke of Christ and their shoulders to the burden, wax weary. And though you meet with divers exercises, yet be not discouraged. but be carefull, to discharge your duty to god, and clear your consciences one unto another in the love of God, and in the spirit of meekness, and in due time you will reap your reward. And therefore be fervent and zealous for the truth, for there is a great need now as ever: For although the Lord hath given us a day of liberty and ease, as to the outward, yet we have an unwearied enemy, and cunning adversary to *Sions* prosperity which envyeth our hapyness and is not willing to miss any opportunity, but useth all his endeavours inwardly to captivate the soul and to hinder the growth & dominion of that precious life, that hath right to rule: and this he attempts to do, by drawing out the minds of such as (in this day of liberty) are not Watchfull in the light of the Lord, into vain customs and the foolish fashions of the world, too much intermixing with the spirit of it, foolishly to be led away into the defilements thereof. And hath prevailed upon others, to be makers breaches; and sowers of strife and discord

discord, and to become accusers of the brethren, and at length to be led away into a separation from friends, and the unity of truth once by them received, and be-seived in. The Lord Rebuke that spirit is our earnest desire, and if it be his will upon the eye of the mindes of such, that they may see the effects of their doings. How the truth by them is reproached, the hearts of the faithfull sadned: And God almighty keep us, near unto himself, and one unto another, greatly valuing, those great mercys and priviledges we have afforded us, in the peaceable Injoying our meetings in the worship and service of our God, according to the manifestation of his blessed spirit in us: And that we labour to make a right use, of every of these opportunitys, put into our hands, Not knowing how soon we may meet with exercises again, nor after what manner they may come, yea, a Winnowing Season, a day that shall burn as an Oven, Where in the proud and those that worke wickedness will be as Stubble. But the wheat will the Lord gather into his garner, when the chaffe shall be burnt with unquenchable fire. And therefore Dear Friends every where be warned, to keep low in your Minds For *we will be to the Crowne of pride*; Which often goes before destruction and an haughty spirit before a fall. And Dear Friends you whom the Lord hath gathered out of *Babylons*, Confusion and hath preserved from partakeing with her, of her vain delights and pleasures, and therefore not to partake of her plagues: keep to your ancient Rock and strong tower, to which the *Righteous in all ages Fled and were safe*: For there is refuge and sure hiding place, in all stormes and tempests, And feel that arm and power that gathered you to God in the beginning, that thereby you may be kept little and low before him, of humble minds, of broken hearts and contrite

spirits, trembling at the word of the Lord. And be as watches on *Synn* walls that when the danger doth approach you may escape and Give warning to those that are wandred and led astray, by the wils of the enemy from the safe habitation, and that as the Lord may direct and lay it on you, you may advise, *with exhortation, and reproofe, to hasten with speed to the inward Court and not to be found in the outward where the Gentiles feet must tread:* And if the rebellious slight your Counsell and hate your advice, If such be taken away in their Iniquity you will be cleare, and the Lord will be clear, *and their blood will be upon their own heads.* And you who are mothers of Children, and in duty to God, bound to order your familiyes aright as become the truth, in the place God alimghy hath set you: See that in your words and actions and in your apparell, and all others things under your concern, you be good examples to your Children and Servants, and Do not Indulge or Connive at any thing in them that may offend the Lord or greive his good spirit, Do not allow or suffer them to wear any thing, that may render them justly deserving those Calamityes, which in Judgment from God, may justly fall upon this generation of evill doers, for the pride and haughtenes of the people thereof, use your endeavours, to hinder their Imitating the proud fantastieall fashions of this world, as high dressed heads with Ruffles and double Gause, and all other things in attire that is superfluous, or any way dithonourable to truth as Stript Gounes, of divers Colours wrapt into a narrow Compass hanging behind them: All which we Judge to be, unbecoming truth, Not futable to our holy profession nor the plainnes of the Truth we have received and believed in. For truth is lowly and plain, and made those

a plain people in the beginning who were subject to it, and is not changeable in it self, Nor admits of any Change in us, And therefore we can do no less, but advise you to the plainness of it, Considering the good effects it hath wrought in, and through those who are guided by it: Oh what true fear, what holy zeal, what plain dealing and great care was there in that day, to keep truth clear, on every hand, amongst all who loved it, their Apparell plain, their Countinances solid, and grave, their words weighty few and savory, such as Ministered grace to the hearers: And there is a word further, in our hearts to you young Women, keep in the line of life, and Language of truth, saying one unto another, *Arise Virgins Daughters of Sion and shake your selves from the dust of the earth and put on beautyfull Garments*, even the Robes of Rightcounesse the Saints Cloathing, and humble your selves to the Cross of Christ, you who have decked your selves above the simplicity thereof and let that *Crucifie you, to the world, and the world to you dayly*: and be you willing to walk in that narrow path of self denyal: the narrow way that lead, to life, and the Lord will adorn you with a meek, and a quiet spirit, which is with him of great price; and will inwardly make you beautyfull, as the Kings Daughters; for it is the very labour and travell of our soules that *Sion may become the Beauty of all nations, and the praise of the whole earth*. And that the wanderers, and the scattered a broad through the letting in of a careles and forgetfull mind of the mercys of the Lord unto them, in the day of his first love: may be again gathered unto him *and into the footsteps of the flocks of his Companions*, to enter in at the right door into the fould of rest and safety, and into the perfect peace which God gives and none can take away. And that you who



loves the truth, and are springing up as plants therein, may gradually grow from strength to strength and from one degree of grace unto another, untill you become as Nourishing Mothers in *Israel*, in your day and age and (as *Deborah*) concerned in your measure, of life, and the station God almighty hath placed you, under the Government of Gods power & subservant thereunto to Rule for him, to the praise of him who loved & accounted us worthy.

And that (as *Dorcas*) you may consider the poor and make provision for the Widdows and fatherless, and as other faithfull women in generations gone, which might be mentioned, and many more of this generation removed from us out of the body, worthy to be remembered of us, and the Memoriall of them liveth upon our spirits to our refreshment in the Lord, and to the praise of his worthy name over all: Much might be said, *but we Recommend you, with our own souls to the word of truth* in every of our own bosomes, which leads into all truth, and if diligently harkened unto will perfectly teach and direct us all in the way of righteousness. Wherein we shall be well pleasing to God, and his delight will be to do us good dayly: renewing his mercys unto us as the morning, in the continuance of his ancient love, in the flesh sence whereof we are concern'd both young and old according to our measures to be true and faithfull in the work (through Gods help) whereunto we are called, as Co-workers and fellow-labourers in the service of truth, meet helps one unto another in the Lord, and through his power whereunto shall be the praise, as worthy for ever: And let it be remembered by us all: that the *woe was, and is to those that do the work of the Lord negligently*, Therefore dear Freinds, let us be carefull in our age and day, according to the dispensation of the grace of God committed to us, to  
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serve the Lord in faithfullness with one consent, seeking his honour alone unto whom it doth belong, from henceforth and for ever.

And it is desired that this our Testimony, and advice with other Testimonys given forth by us heretofore after once perusing and reading over, may not be cast by, and lost. but that one of every sort of our papers may be kept in every perticuler meeting in the County, and as Occasion and opportunity may require they may be read and the advice and Counsell therein contained, may be observed and followed that our Labour and Travel in the truth may be answered, and that Friends in generall may reap the benefit thereof: And that our next yearly Meeting, may be attended: with some faithfull Women from each monthly Meeting to bring in their Testimonys, concerning their care of the good and comely Order of truth that we may be comforted together, as at this time we have been by the aboundings of the love of God unto us, worthy to be honoured by us, the days we have to live, unto whome honour doth belong now, and for evermore.

*Subscribed in the Name and on behalf of the Meeting.*

Judith Boulbie.

Katheren Winn.

Elizabeth Beckwith.

Margaret Bracking.

Sarah English.

Jessell Morris.

Elizabeth Moore.

Frances Tayler,

Mary White.

Katherin Ratlife.

Dorothy Wells.

Anne Allison.

Debora Winn.

Grace Hemsley.

George G. White

Received of Mr. J. A. White

1/17/77

the sum of \$100.00

for the sum of \$100.00

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